

REMARKS

Claims 5-14 and 19-27 are currently pending in this application. In the Office Action mailed February 20, 2007 (the "Office Action"), claims 5-7, 11-14 and 19 were allowed and claims 2, 8-10 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) due to at least one of US Pat. No. 6,139,493 and US Pat. No. 5,728,046.

In response, Applicants have cancelled claim 2, amended allowed claim 5 to remove the term "sequentially", amended claims 8-10 to depend from claim 5, amended claims 6 and 12-14 to clarify certain aspects of the invention, and added new claims 22-27. No new matter has been introduced via these amendments. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration of the present application in light of these amendments to the claims. More specifically, none of the currently pending claims (5-14 and 19-27) appears to be anticipated or rendered obvious by any cited prior art. An indication of allowance with regard to claims 5-14 and 19-27 is hereby earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this Amendment or the application in general, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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